

Case No. F7483(V)

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended at page 12 to insert a sentence stating that the process is a batch process, which, it is submitted, would be apparent from the description in the specification earlier in the paragraph in which the sentence is inserted.

Claims 1-12 and 22-24 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 1 and to recite a batch process as supported by the specification as discussed above with respect to the amendment to page 12.

Section headings have been added to the specification.

It is submitted that, given the teachings of the specification, e.g., in Table 2, and on page 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraphs and page 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> paragraphs, one of ordinary skill would well be able to ascertain whether he/she has the required springiness and firmness.

The Office points to no teaching in Greethead of a batch process. Rather, Greethead discloses a continuous process (cyclones work that way). Notwithstanding the discussion in Greethead of production of a very uniform, heat treated cereal, the undersigned has been informed that the continuous process of Greethead leads to a spread in residence times of the rice kernels in the hot air. Thus, Greethead would be expected to contain both over- and under-treated rice, due to too long and too short, respectively, residence time in the continuous process.

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The undersigned has been informed that such over-treated rice will be dark in color and unacceptable, and under-treated rice will not have the desirable quick cooking properties. The process of the current invention is a batch process, and thus one can tailor exactly the right residence time for the whole batch, so no part will be over or under processed.

The cited Wayne patent characterizes his process as a continuous process, so it is difficult to see how it could remedy the deficiencies in Greethead.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application, as amended,  
be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerard J. McGowan, Jr.  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 29,412

/gjm  
(201) 894-2297